

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. A means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of a pointing device comprising: (3, 4);
~~characterised by~~
an activity sensor for sensing activation of the pointing device;
wherein the said activity sensor comprises ~~comprising~~ a threshold comparator; and (10);
wherein the activity sensor is adapted to enable energization of the pointing device (3, 4)
when the sensed activation of the pointing device exceeds a threshold.
2. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the threshold is adjustable.
3. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to claim 1, wherein the ~~or 2, characterised in that~~ activity sensor comprises a timer (11) adapted to switch off the energization of the pointing device (3, 4) after a time has elapsed without any sensed activation of the pointing device (3, 4).
4. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the time is adjustable.
5. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to claim 1, wherein the ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that~~ activity sensor further comprises a detector device (7, 8, 9) for sensing a capacitance change at the pointing device (3, 4).
6. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of a the pointing device according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the detector device comprises an oscillator (8) with a resonant circuit (7).
7. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to claim 6, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the capacitance of the pointing device (3, 4) forms part of the resonant circuit (7).
8. The means ~~Means~~ for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the detector device comprises a high impedance amplifier.

9. An input device comprising:
a pointing device; ~~(3, 4) and~~
an activity sensor for sensing activation of the pointing device; ~~characterised in that~~
wherein the said activity sensor comprises a threshold comparator; and (10);
wherein the activity sensor is adapted to enable energization of the pointing device ~~(3, 4)~~
when the sensed activation of the pointing device exceeds a threshold.
10. ~~The An input device according to claim 9, characterised in that~~ wherein the
threshold is adjustable.
11. ~~The An input device according to claim 9, wherein the or 10, characterised in that~~
activity sensor comprises a timer ~~(11)~~ adapted to switch off the energization of the pointing
device ~~(3, 4)~~ after a time has elapsed without any sensed activation of the pointing device ~~(3, 4)~~.
12. ~~The An input device according to claim 11, characterised in that~~ wherein the time
is adjustable.
13. ~~The An input device according to claim 9, wherein the any one of claims 9 to 12,~~
~~characterised in that~~ activity sensor further comprises a detector device ~~(7, 8, 9)~~ for sensing a
capacitance change in the pointing device ~~(3, 4)~~.
14. ~~The An input device according to claim 13, characterised in that~~ wherein the
pointing device comprises a ball ~~(4)~~ capacitively connected to the detector device ~~(7, 8, 9)~~.
15. ~~The An input device according to claim 14, characterised in that~~ wherein the ball
~~(4)~~ is a metallized plastic ball with a plastic or rubber coating.
16. ~~The An input device according to claim 14 or 15, characterised in that~~ wherein
the detector device comprises an oscillator ~~(8)~~ with a resonant circuit ~~(7)~~, wherein a the
capacitance of the ball forms (4) forming a part of the resonant circuit ~~(7)~~.
17. ~~The An input device according to claim 13, wherein any one of claims 13 to 15,~~
~~characterised in that~~ the detector device comprises a high impedance amplifier.

18. ~~The A-portable device (1)~~ according to claim 9 further comprising including
a display (2) for showing menus in which navigation may be performed by means of the
an input device (3, 4), ~~characterised in that the input device is according to any one of claims 9~~
~~to 17.~~

19. ~~The A-portable device~~ according to claim 18, wherein the ~~characterised in that the~~
~~portable device is a mobile telephone (1).~~